IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of

R. Tayrani *et al*. Serial No. 10/688,368

Filing Date: 10/17/2003

For: EFFICIENT BROADBAND

Group Art Unit 2817

Examiner: Choe, Henry

Date: February 4, 2005

AFFIDAVIT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.131

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We, Reza Tayrani and Clifford Meyers, hereby declare that we are the inventors of the EFFICIENT BROADBAND SWITCHING-MODE AMPLIFIER disclosed and claimed in the above-identified patent application.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of an invention disclosure, which shows that the invention was conceived by us on or before August 29, 2002. We worked diligently on the invention from conception until the application was filed October 17, 2003.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Inventor: Reza Tayrani

Address; Marina Del Rey, CA

Citizenship: US

Reza Tayrani

Date

2/16/05

Full Name of Inventor: Clifford Meyers

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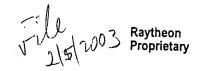
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Invention Disclosure Questionnaire

10-5876-2PC (6/00)



Complete the information in the spaces provided. Use the TAB key to advance to the next field. Shift-TAB will move the cursor back one field. Either X or Space-bar can be used to check boxes where required.

Prepare the Invention Disclosure Form, except for the information on page 3. The original should be signed and witnessed where indicated. Send the original and three copies directly to the Regional Patent Engineer (see below). Have a copy reviewed and annotated by your department manager (through your immediate supervisor), and then by the manager of the program office or business area most likely to benefit from protection (via patent or trade secret) of your invention. Once you receive the appropriate comments and signatures, the executed copy and six additional copies should also be sent to the Regional Patent Engineer at (see attached instructions):

Inventors at ELCAN, ROSI, and sites in CA or AZ: Intellectual Property & Licensing Dept., Raytheon Company, 2000 East El Segundo Blvd (EO/E01/E150), El Segundo, CA 90245; Texas area: Intellectual Property & Licensing Dept., Raytheon Company, 13510 N. Central Expressway, M/S 200, Dallas, TX 75243; Northeast Region: Intellectual Property & Licensing Dept., Raytheon Company, 141 Spring Street, Lexington, MA 02421.

1. TITLE OF INVENTION

A Highly Efficient Broadband Class E Push-Pull Amplifier

(A) NAME (first, middle, last)	1	ors in Section 14 an			r			
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Marina Pointe Dr. # B426 Marina Del Rey, CA 90292		US	2000 East Imperal Hwy PO Box 902 RE R01/A511					
	MANAGER							
E-MAIL: rtayrani@west.raytheon.com	Ed Wallace	El Segundo, CA 9	El Segundo, CA 90245					
(B) NAME (first, middle, last)	EMPLOYEE ID	PHONE	FAX NO.	COMPANY & SEGMENT	DEPT NUMBER			
Clifford Meyers	HAC83287	310-647-8107	310.647.358	ES/Integrated Systems	290			
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E-MAIL: cmeyers@raytheon.com <cmeyers@ra< td=""><td>ytheon.com></td><td></td><td>El Segundo, CA 9</td><td></td></cmeyers@ra<>	ytheon.com>		El Segundo, CA 9					
(C) NAME (first, middle, last)	EMPLOYEE ID	PHONE	FAX NO.	COMPANY & SEGMENT	DEPT NUMBER			
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		MANAGER						
-MAIL:								

Patent Department will determine legal inventorship

PROOF OF CONC	EPTION
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A. BY WHOM WAS FIRST DESCRIPTION WRITTEN OR DRAWING MADE? Dr. Reza Tayrani	DATE CONCEIVED 5/19/2002	ACCT. CHARGED (TIME/MATERIAL) NP1ARD3C12	LOCATION OF FIRST DESCRIPTION / DRAWING (TECHNICAL NOTEBOOK NO. AND PAGES) presentation file, Office computer
B. TO WHOM WAS INVENTION FIRST DISCLOSED? Cliff Meyers	DATE DISCLOSED 5/25/2002	MANNER OF DISCLO	DSURE .

PATENTS AND LICENSING USE ONLY

A Highly Efficient Broadband Class E Push-Pull Amplifier		DATE RECEIVED ON PATENTS & LICENSING RECEIVED	PATENT DOCKET NUMBER
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4.	KEDUCTION TO FRACTICE											
A.	WAS A DEVICE EMBODYING THE INVENTION CONSTRUCTED AND TESTED OR THE PROCESS PRACTICED?	YES NO		Dr. Re	BY WHOM eza Tayrani	DATE STARTED	DATE COMPLETED	ACCT. CHARGED (TIME/MATERIAL)				
В.	PRESENT LOCATION OF DEVICE AND ALL	DOC	UME	NTS SI	HOWING REDUCTION TO PR	RACTICE						
5.	RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT C	ONTE	ACT					_				
A.	WAS THIS INVENTION CONCEIVED AND/OR REDUCED TO PRACTICE UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTRACT?	YES NO	□		CONTRACT NUMBER AND TITLE							
В.	B. TO ASSIST RAYTHEON IN COMPLYING WITH GOVERNMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE PROVIDE CONTACT IN GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND RAYTHEON CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT (IF KNOWN).											
6.	RELATIONSHIP TO COMPANY-FUND	ED P	ROG	RAM								
A.	WAS THIS INVENTION CONCEIVED AND/OF REDUCED TO PRACTICE AS PART OF A COMPANY-FUNDED PROGRAM/PROJECT?		YES NO	Ø	IDENTIFY Raytheon "Idea Program"	PROJECT TITL	E, NUMBER, ET	C.				
7.	RELATED DOCUMENTS											
A.	ARE THERE ANY RELATED INVENTION DISCLOSURES OR PATENT APPLICATIONS		YES NO		IDENTIF	Y FILE OR CAS	E NUMBER, ETC					
В.	ARE THERE ANY RELATED ISSUED PATEN OR TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS?		YES NO	□		IDENTIF	Y					
8.	USE, COMMERCIALIZATION AND FO	REIGI	N MA	RKETS	;			,				
	ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS FOR THE INVENTION?	Τ,	YES NO		IDENTIFY POTENTIA commercial wireless person							
В.	ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY FOREIGN MARKETS FOR THIS INVENTION?		YES VO		IDENTIFY COU Japan, commercial wireless	•	CATIONS, TIME unication Produc					
C.	HAS THE INVENTION BEEN OR IS THE INVENTION TO BE INCORPORATED INTO A COMPANY PRODUCT OR PROGRAM?		YES NO	⊠ □	PRODUCT(Space Based Radar	(S) OR PROGRA	AM(S), TIME FRA	ME				

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9. DEPARTMENT MANAGER CO	ON ITS TO PATENT EVALUATION	COMMITTEE	
This invention introduces a new class slot-line balun. Such highly efficient highlal RF transmitters based on Delt	IPAs are needed for many defense and	Il high power, high efficiency amplifier that commercial applications including Spaced	utilizes a miniature wideband Based Radar (SBR) and
in the GaAs MMIC technology. By ap efficient HPAs can be designed. By a	plying this device and a unique design r	class of miniature broadband baluns that ar methodology for the design of switching mo ur avionics systems, Raytheon will be able ar systems.	de power amplifiers, highly
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NAME Ed Molloco	CICNATURE	DATE 6/24/2002	PHONE 310-334-
NAME Ed Wallace	SIGNATURE	7/2/02	7503
10. PROGRAM OR BUSINESS O	FFICE COMMENTS TO PATENT EVA	Edation Committee	
Low cost, low weight, broadband and	highly efficeint HPAs are critical compo	onents of any advanced T/R modules for ap	oplications in phased array
spaced based radar and other avionic avionics programs including F/A18 Al	systems where efficency is a primum. ESA and MESA.	Successful deployment of these modules	are important to our major
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NAME Cliff Meyers	SIGNATURE ////	DATE / /	PHONE
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11. SUPERVISOR: please affirm th	e charge number and program data pro	ovided in sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this disc	losure.
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TITLE OF INVENTION			
A Highly Efficient Broadband Class E Push-Pull Am	nplifier		
'INVENTOR(S) (Additional Inventors may be liste	d in Section 14)		-
Dr. Reza Tayrani	Clifford Meyers		· ·
12. PUBLICATION, SALE, OR PUBLIC US			
A. HAS THE INVENTION BEEN DISCLOSED TO A THIRD PARTY WITHOUT THE EXECUTION OF A NON-DISCLOSURE, PROPRIETARY, OR OTHER CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT?	YES 🗆	DATE	то wном
B. HAS THE INVENTION BEEN USED, DISCUSSED, DEMONSTRATED OR OTHERWISE DISCLOSED OUTSIDE THE COMPANY (SUCH AS TO A VENDOR OR CUSTOMER)?	YES NO 🗵	DATE	TO/FOR WHOM (COMPANY/PERSON)
C. HAS THE INVENTION BEEN SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE?	YES 🗆 NO 🗵	DATE	то wном
D. IS THERE A PUBLICATION OR PUBLIC PRESENTATION RELATED TO THE INVENTION? (This includes the Internet)	YES 🗆 NO 🗵	DATE	IDENTIFY
E. HAS A MANUSCRIPT DESCRIBING THE INVENTION BEEN SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION?	YES 🗆 NO 🗵	DATE	TO WHOM
F. IF THE ANSWER TO E. WAS YES, HAS THE MANUSCRIPT BEEN ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION?	YES NO	DATE	WHEN AND WHERE WILL IT BE PUBLISHED?
INVENTOR(S) SIGN AND DATE:	oy/e_	·	6/27/02 (Melpon 7/2
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13. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTIC

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM SULVED BY THE INVENTION

This invention introduces a new class of broadband highly efficient push-pull HPAs that are based on the unique properties of uniplanar slotline T-junctions and the switching mode operation of the GaAs amplifiers. Currently, highly efficient (~ 80-90%) microwave and RF power amplifiers do not exists due several design and implentation issues that have been addressed in this disclosure.

B. PRIOR ATTEMPTS OF OTHERS TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM

The prior attempts of others to solve this problem is rather limited in the GaAs MMIC technology mainly due to the following reasons:

- 1. The microwave balun is a complex device to realize in GaAs MMIC technology and therefore the prior arts have yielded a limited bandwidth and a high insertion loss at X-band.
- 2. Published data on push-pull amplifiers show that they are operated as amplifiers in such classes as A, B or C with the PAE (power added efficiency) of less than 50% at X-band.

C. HOW YOUR INVENTION SOLVED THIS PROBLEM

Our approach to the design of a broaband push-pull highly efficient (PAE 80%) amplifier would eliminate the above mentioned performance limitations by:

- 1- Utilizing a new slotline blun which has a demonstrated low loss(<1 dB) and a broad frequency band (1-20 GHz).
- 2- By designing the amplifiers to operate in a highly efficient switching mode (class-E), we have shown PAE >90% at S-band and 70% at X-band can be achieved.
- 3- By utilizing these two unique design approaches in conjunction with the MMIC technology, a new generation of highly efficient HPAs can be offered. These HPAs are enabling componenets suitable for insertion in spaced based radar and other avionics systems where efficiency is a premium.
- D. WHY YOU BELIEVE THAT THE INVENTION IS NEW (Specifically point out all novel features)

To our knowledge, after extensive literature serach, we have been unable to find a similar circuit concept. The unique features of our approach are:

- 1- A new design methodology, especially suitable for switching mode amplifiers. The four step design is based on time domain and Harmonic Balance analysis of the entire push-pull class-E HPA.
- 2- Utilization of a new miniature slotline balun suitable for integration in GaAs MMIC technology.
- 3- Design the amplifier for operation in a highly efficient switchining mode (class-E) rather than class A, B, or C.

14. DETAILED DESCRIPTION.

Use the Invention Disclosure Continuation Sheet to provide a detailed written description of your invention, using as many pages as necessary. Be certain to include a description of the "best mode" or best means of practicing the invention known to you at this time. You may insert figures, tables, and photos into this section, or you can attach copies of relevant proposals, prior art, or other documentation that will assist the Patent Evaluation Committee in fully considering your invention. (Note: Please place information on additional inventors first in this section).

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This invention introduces a new class of highly efficient, tunable push-pull Class-E (switching mode) High Power Amplifiers (HPAs). Such highly efficient HPAs are needed for many defense and commercial applications including Spaced Based Radar (SBR) and digital RF transmitters based on Delta-Sigma DSP controlled chip sets.

The limited available published data on the monolithic push-pull amplifiers show that the majority of these designs are based on class A, B, A-B or C. The power added efficiency (PAE) for these classes of amplifiers are inherently low due to the power dissipation within the active device and within the 180 degrees combining circuit (balun) used as part of the HPA's output matching network (OMN). Typical PAE of around 50% at X-band have been reported by several authors. However, such low PAE is not suitable for SBR applications where PAE of more 70% is desirable. Prior attempts of others to solve this problem have not been successful due to the followings:

1. The microwave baluns used thus far in push-pull HPAs are complex topology circuits and are found to be quite lossy when realized in GaAs MMIC technology. The prior arts have demonstrated wide operational bandwidth at the expense of a rather high circuit insertion loss (2 dB at X-band). However, as shown in Figure 1, the balun circuit loss drastically reduces amplifier's PAE.

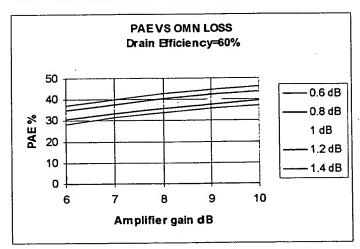


Figure 1: Amplifier PAE as a function of gain for different values of output matching network (including balun)

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2. The push-pull amplifiers designed based on class A, B, A-B or C, (go rally known as current-source amplifiers) suffer from low inherent PAE due to the overlapping voltage & current waveforms at the device terminals. This mode of operation causes power dissipation within the device, hence lower efficiency.

Our design approach would eliminate the above mentioned performance limitations by employing the following three major concepts (claims) that have not been used in prior arts for the design of broadband push-pull highly efficient (PAE 80%) amplifiers:

Claim No.1

1- The amplifiers are designed to operate in the switching mode (class-E) operation with demonstrated performance of PAE >90% at S-band and 70% at X-band.

Under ideal conditions, class-E amplifiers operate as a perfect switch with no overlapping voltage & current waveforms at the device terminals, thereby dissipating zero power (100% collector or drain efficiency) as depicted in Figure 2. Other classes of amplifiers operate as a current-source with overlapping voltage & current waveforms and hence lower efficiency.

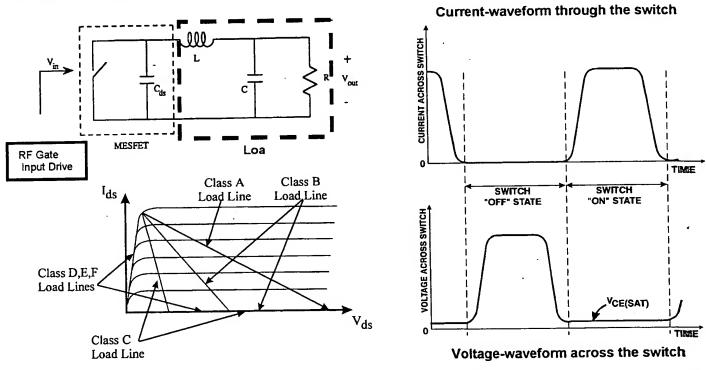


Figure 2: Ideal switching mode class-E amplifier topology showing ideal switching device (MESFET and the ideal class-E load) & ideal output waveforms.

the ideal class-E load) & ideal output waveloris.								
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We have developed a simple, yet accurate, design methodology for successful realization of switching mode, class-E high efficiency power amplifiers. Furthermore, a technique for modifying pHEMT large-signal model has been developed that yields a more accurate modeling of switching mode amplifiers. Our proposed circuit design and simulations includes time domain analysis, Harmonic Balance analysis, and large signal stability analysis. The robust design methodology has yielded two first pass design successes achieving world record class-E HPA performances.

- The first successful design and fabrication of a highly efficient S-band monolithic CPW class-E amplifier that employs a 0.3 um x 1000 um pHEMT. As shown in Figure 3, the amplifier measured performance shows a peak Power Added Efficiency (PAE) of more than 90% and a peak output power of greater than 23 dBm at 3.25 GHz.
- The first successful design and fabrication of an X-band monolithic high efficiency class-E amplifier that employs a 0.3 um x 600 um pHEMT. As shown in Figure 4, the amplifier's measured performance shows a peak Power Added Efficiency (PAE) of 63% at 10.6 GHz and a constant output power of greater than 24 dBm together with a gain of 10 dB over 9-11 GHz.

Monolithic Class-E HPAs

Present Technical Status- 8 bad Performance

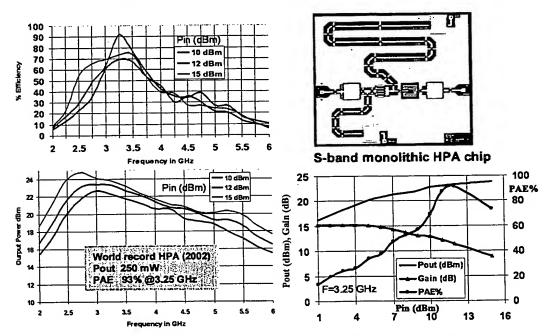


Figure 3: Measured performance of class-E S-band HPA

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Monolithic Class-E HPAs

Present Technical Status- X band Performance

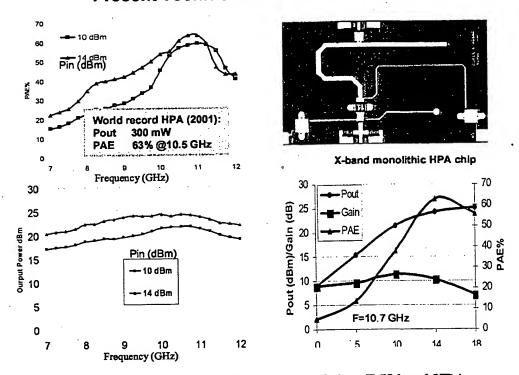


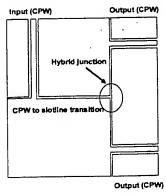
Figure 4: Measured performance of class-E X-band HPA

Claim No.2

• The push-pull amplifier design is based on utilizing a novel miniature low-loss slotline balun having an insertion loss of <1 dB at X-band and <0.5 dB at S-band.

This novel miniature balun eliminates the usage of an ordinary 180 degrees hybrid (balun) for power splitting and combining purposes, thereby reducing the associated circuit loss which results in a compact and highly efficient push-pull HPA. Our proposed miniature balun has demostrated an ultra broad bandwidth performace from dc to 10.0 GHZ. The balun shown in Figure 5 has been optimized for minimum loss of 0.5 dB across 2-6 GHz frequency band. Several slotline balun were designed, fabricated and measured to demonstrate the usefulness of this invention. These miniature broadband baluns are simple to fabricate and easy to integrate with SiGe or GaAs technologies.

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INVENTOR(S) SIGN AND DA	ATE:						
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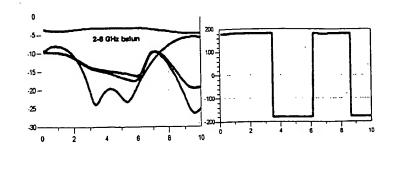


Figure 5: Miniature balun with integrated CPW to slotline transitions (0.5 x0.5 mm)

Claim No.3

• Thin film Barium strontium titanate (BST) is used as tunable capacitor to tune the class-E HPA's load for operation over a broad bandwidth.

Raytheon Infrared Operations (RIO) has developed the materials and processes necessary to fabricate high quality barium strontium titanate (BST) varactors using a spin-on MOD (Metal Organic Decomposition) process. Typical tunability range is greater than 5 to 1 with a control voltage range of 0 to 30 volts dc Typical "Q" is much greater than 100 at 30 MHz. Raytheon has fabricated a wide variety of plate capacitors with values ranging from 15 pF to 2200pF. These devices have been tested at frequencies up to 1 GHz. Other types of capacitor structures such as co-planar and interdigitated designs can be fabricated using this process. Such structures would be appropriate for microwave applications.

For example, Figure 6 shows a tunability curve for an MIM BST varactor, with a 160nm thickness and an active area of 20x100 microns. The capacitance density in this case is ~32fF/um² (dielectric constant of ~580) which is nearly a factor of 100 larger than a typical SiN capacitor! The measured tunability is over 6:1 in the 0-20V range (the breakdown voltage for this device is 22V).

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	GaAs	.5	MEM
Tunabilit (at high	Mediu (2-5:1 typ)	Hig (6⊰1 typ)	Lo (<1.5:1)
RF (Q	Goo (Q<60typ.	Goo (Q<60typ)	Very (Q<200)
Control	<10V (unipola)	< -20V (bipolar	40-90 V (bipolar
Tunin Spee	Fast	Fast	Sio
Powe Handlin	Poo	Excellent	Goo
IMD	Poo	Excellent	Excellent
Packagin	Hermetic	Surface -	Hermetic
Cost	Moderate to	Lo	Moderate

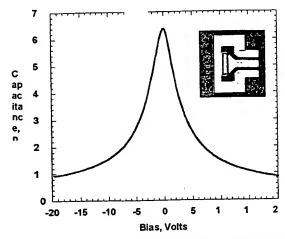


Figure 6. (Left) Comparison of Characteristics of BST Varactors with GaAs Varactors and MEMs. (Right) Capacitance Variation (pF) versus Bias (Volts) for a 20x100 um BST MIM Varactor Fabricated with a 160nm Thickness.

Claim No.4

By utilizing the above three aforementioned claims and in conjunction with the useful properties
of MMIC technology, a new generation of highly efficient HPAs can be designed. These HPAs
are suitable for insertion in SBR and other avionics systems where efficiency is a paramount
premium.

The push-pull HPA has a number of advantages over single-ended amplifiers, including the potential for broadband performance and twice the output power of a single-ended amplifier. The push-pull HPA architecture is shown in Figure 7. The input power is split and fed in anti-phase to the two pHEMTs through the miniature low-loss slotline balun which was described under claim # 2. Figure 8, shows the fabricated balun realized on Alumina substrates.

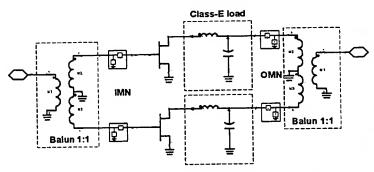


Figure 7. Proposed non-tunable class-E push-pull HPA

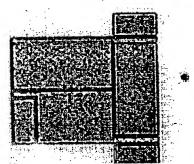


Figure 8. Fabricated miniature balun with integrated CPW to slotline transitions

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Figure 9 depicts a new circuit idea for realizations of a tunable broadband high efficiency push-pull HPA that uses BST capacitors to provide broadband tuning. Figure 10, illustrates a novel version of an H-bridge circuit suitable for MMIC implementation. This circuit topology is capable of producing higher output power when compared with the push-pull topology.

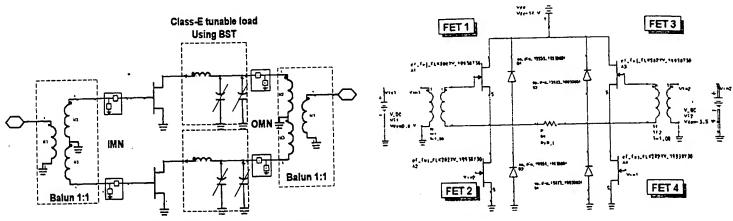


Figure 9. Tunable class-E push-pull HPA using BST tuning capacitors

Figure 10. High power H-bridge class-E circuit

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